

**Meeting Minutes**  
**Frederick County Sustainability Commission**  
**Wednesday, April 17, 2013, 3:00 p.m.**  
**FITC**

**Present:** Tom Anderson, Robert Black, Lisa Gaver, J.J. Hartner, Kate Heilman, Dick Ishler, Tim Jones, Margie Lance, Chris May

**Office of Sustainability and Environmental Resources (OSER) Staff:** Sabrina Harder, Nicole Robinson

**Other attendees:** Brad Gottschall, Alan Imhoff, Linda Norris-Waldt

**1. Call to Order and Welcome**

Chair Margie Lance called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m.

**2. Administrative Items**

Approval of March Meeting Minutes: Tom Anderson made a motion to approve March minutes. Dick Ishler seconded the motion. All in favor; minutes approved.

**3. Brief Legislative wrap-up**

Tim Jones briefed the Commission on legislative items and presented a handout outlining such items noting the red highlighted items have been passed by the Senate and House.

There was discussion of the passage of House Bill (HB 508- Environmental- Local Stormwater Management Charges- State Property).

There was discussion of House Bill (HB 775- Maryland Pesticide Reporting and Information Act, Changed to "Maryland Pesticide Reporting and Information Workgroup"). Robert Black requested to be the farmer on the workgroup committee and stated he has spoken with Delegate Schultz and representatives from the Farm Bureau regarding participation. He stated there are still major concerns about protecting proprietary information for farming practices.

Shannon Moore stated she will continue to follow the progress of House Bill (HB 1140- Recycling- Composting Facilities).

It was announced that the May meeting will have an in-depth review of legislative items and that public officials have been invited to attend.

There was discussion of Senate Bill (SB-935- Housing-Energy-Efficient and Green Homes – Construction Financing). Senator Young may ask for support in this issue.

#### **4. Updates and Comments**

Tom Anderson: With regard to supporting SB 935, he questioned its value versus traditional construction loans.

Tim Jones: In response to Mr. Anderson, he stated there is incentive through a low interest loan.

Shannon Moore: She stated one can offset the difference for making a high energy use home into a low energy use home.

Margie Lance: County Libraries and Frederick Community College (FCC) have sponsored the “Food for Thought” Series with Will Allen for Earth Month. She stated that he’s a great example for food waste composting. She also stated that Michael Judd conducted a presentation about sustainable agriculture practices at FCC.

Kate Heilman: She discussed the State Sediment Grading Control Ordinance, questioning how it is enforced in Frederick County and how residents could be educated to help report violations.

Shannon Moore: In response to Ms. Heilman, she offered an explanation of practices in Frederick County and the EPA audit. She stated the results may spur action by the County for enforcement and education. The County is considering returning inspection responsibility to the State. Standards may not be as high if the State takes over enforcement. Enforcement is currently under the purview of Permitting and Development Review with three (3) inspectors for the County.

There was a discussion regarding enforcement of yard waste programs with private haulers.

Dick Ishler: He stated he currently pays a private trash hauler to take his yard waste, but it goes out with the trash and not for yard waste recycling. This private hauler will provide yard waste recycling service for 20+ bags but small quantities go out with the trash.

Robert Black: The Town of Thurmont is doing yard waste recycling and composting.

Chris May: He posed questions regarding Solarize Frederick.

Shannon Moore: She stated the Green Homes Challenge (GHC) Recognition event was held on March 27, 2013 with public officials in attendance and they spoke in support of

the program. Three (3) Board of County Commission members attended. The Renewable Star Challenge was launched at the event. Solarize Frederick is a special initiative partnering with the following providers: Astrum Solar for PV and Solar Energy Services for Solar Thermal. There are a limited number of incentive grants available.

Nicole Robinson: Power Saver Retrofit program (PSR) will wrap up in May. 85 homes will receive energy efficiency retrofits. Many participating households have certified with Power Saver.

Shannon Moore: The Neighborhood Green Workshop will be held on May 18, 2013.

Tom Anderson: With regard to Solarize Frederick, he stated grid-tied micro-inverter systems will be used for PV. Thermal systems appear to use flat plate copper collectors.

Sabrina Harder: Additional Solarize details will be forthcoming now that contractors have been selected.

Nicole Robinson: The Interactive GHC website will launch in Mid-May and the current Challenge Takers will be directed to log-in to the system at that time. ([www.FrederickGreenChallenge.org](http://www.FrederickGreenChallenge.org))

Lisa Gaver: She attended a recent outing with other farmers to discuss operations and practices.

## **5. Discussion of Applications received for open Sustainability Commission vacancies**

The Commission went to a closed session to review and vote on recommendations for reappointments and new Commission members.

## **6. Adjourn – 4:00 p.m.**

The meeting concluded with a tour of the Catoctin Mountain Orchard and presentation of sustainable practices led by Robert Black.

*Minutes submitted by Sabrina Harder.*